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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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#### TWO ASSISTANT DIRECTORS NAMED FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Appointment of two Assistant Directors for the Fish and Wildlife Service was announced today by Acting Secretary Fred Aandahl.

Robert H. Johnson, presently Director of the Division of Fish and Game of the State of Massachusetts, has been named Assistant Director for Wildlife, a post long vacant.

Lester Bagley, Wyoming State Game and Fish Commissioner, has been appointed Assistant Director for Field Operations. He succeeds Ernest F. Swift who resigned in August.

In announcing the appointments, Acting Secretary Fred Aandahl said:

"Conservation and development of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources are a major responsibility of the Department of the Interior. The Department has initiated a number of long-range programs designed to assure wise use of these resources while affording them full protection for the future.

"The appointment of the two new Assistant Directors of the Fish and Wildlife Service—one from the Rocky Mountain region and one from the East Coast—will strengthen our vital conservation programs and give them impetus. Both men are highly experienced in this field."

A native of Massachusetts, Johnson has held his post there since February of 1948. For three years prior to that time he was a wildlife project leader for the Massachusetts Fish and Game Division. His earlier experience in this field was as a wildlife technician for the State of Maine, prior to which he spent two years as a forestry foreman in New Hampshire for the United States Forest Service.

Johnson was educated at the University of Idaho and the University of Maine. He has a bachelor of science degree in forestry and a master of science degree in wildlife management. He is a member of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners.

Bagley's career in fish and wildlife work dates from 1919, when he became a Deputy Game Warden in Wyoming. He was State Game Warden from 1938 until 1944, and has been State Game and Fish Commissioner since the latter year. He was born in Idaho, and taught school in northwestern Wyoming before starting work in his present field.

Bagley studied education and engineering in Idaho and Utah, at the Fielding Academy in Idaho, and at Brigham Young and Utah State in Utah. He was in the Army Air Corps during World War I.

In addition to his position as Game and Fish Commissioner, Bagley also is a member of the Wyoming State Resources and Planning Board, the Water Pollution Board, and the State Park Board. He is a member of the Wildlife Society, the American Fisheries Society, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners, and the National Wildlife Federation.

Bagley was President of the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners in 1942 and 1955, and of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in 1947.

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